

Week 1 Assignment: Pre-course Web Conference (Optional Activity)**Overview**

During this class, you have the opportunity to participate in a Web conference. All who participate will introduce themselves, tell where they work, why they are in the program, and share their professional goals. This is an optional, **ungraded activity**.

Conference Basics

The conference will be held on two days:

- Wednesday of Week 1, at 5:00 p.m. CST
- Saturday of Week 1, at 11:00 a.m. CST

You may attend either conference; the content will be identical. Space is limited to 40 participants each and is first come, first served. The meeting room opens 30 minutes prior to the beginning of the conference. You do not need to download or purchase additional software to participate in the conference. However, a headset with microphone and Web camera are preferred equipment.

Conference Access

To reach the meeting room, go to <https://connect.lamar.edu/r69602651/>.

After you gain access, go to the left menu item "Manage my settings," and set up your audio and your camera. Check that your audio *is not muted* before the session begins.

Post-Conference Activity

Although this is an optional activity, you are asked to reflect on the value of the experience in your course blog by the end of Week 2, if you participate. For this and other blog posts required in this course, use the blog you created in EDLD 5306.

After making your blog post, copy and paste a copy of the text into the table below. Be sure you include the URL of your blog and the time and date of your post.

Your Blog's URL	http://educatingforourfuture.blogspot.com/
Time and Date of Your Post	3:18pm 11/22/09
A Copy of Your Blog Post	<p>My First Adobe Video Conference</p> <p>My first Adobe video conference was quite interesting. I met with my class instructor, Dr. Mason, and we had up to 10 or so other classmates coming and going during the hour-long session.</p> <p>While it was great to see my instructor and classmates, the limits of the free technology (compared to real videoconferencing equipment in my District) were obvious. They generally fall into two categories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Technology limitations, including bandwidth restrictions causing us to lose video when too many people logged in, and issues related to the broad scope of equipment and operating systems in use -User issues, particularly the ability of some excited individuals who accidentally took over the conference and shared their desktop with everyone, and a general lack of experience using video or audio conferencing causing much confusion over open microphones and feedback <p>Overall, though, it was a positive experience, great questions were asked, and everyone received excellent answers and feedback from our instructor. It was a great treat to see some of my classmates, and interact with them live, that I normally can only communicate with via discussion boards.</p> <p>I definitely give the experience a thumbs-up despite the technical and user issues, and would gladly participate in future videoconferencing meetings.</p>